

**Citation:** Recommendation regarding construction of welcome arch, May 3, 1909. Clerk File 36790. Record Series 1802-01, Seattle Municipal Archives.

HEMBER ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF 1

JOHN H. MEGRAW, PRESIDENT

Scattle Chamber of Commerce FRANK W. BAKERVICE-PRES. WILL H. PARRY, TREASURER.

C. B. YANDELL, SECRETARY

Seattle, Mashington,

April 30, 1909

John F. Miller, Esq.,

Mayor.

Seattle, Wash.

Dear Sir: -

At a meeting of the special committee named by this Chamber, at the request of the Exposition, to take the initiative in the matter of decorating the city for the Exposition period, I was requested to ask you to make a recommendation to the City Council that a sufficient sum of money be appropriated with which to construct a Welcome Arch, to be located on or near Fortson Place. This locality was suggested for the reason that practically all of the rail travel which enters this city will pass under the arch.

In this connection I desire to direct your attention to the fact that the arch erected by the city of Portland, for the Lewis & Clark Exposition, made such an impression upon visitors that the city afterwards determined to retain it as a permanent feature, believing that the impression which it made upon the minds of visitors to that city was well worth the cost of maintenance. We have the assurances of a large number of representative business men that such a recommendation from you would meet with their approval.

I trust that whatever recommendation you may make to the council in this matter will be transmitted not later than Monday

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next, in order that a committee from this Chamber may follow up your recommendation before the proper committee, as the time is short, and if the arch is to be erected work on the same must begin at the earliest possible moment.

Yours very truly.

Secretary

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The City of Seattle Executive Department John F. Miller, Mayor SECY TO THE HAYOR

May 3, 1909.

To the Honorable, the City Council

of the City of Seattle.

Gentlemen:

Some time ago I had a conversation with members of your honorable body, individually, concerning the propriety of the city's erecting upon Fortson Place, a some other suitable location, a welcome arch, the same to be used before and during the Alaska-Uukon-Pacific Exposition to in some measure voice the city's welcome to our many visitors. With a suitable and a tractive architectural design and proper illumination at night, this could be made a very pleasing feature of the city's festivities during the period of the exposition.

I mention Fortson Place for this purpose, simply because, in my judgment, it is the most centrally located and would be seen by a larger percentage of the visitors to our city and by a larger number of our own citizens than any other place where the arch might be erected.

I would recommend to your honorable body that a suitable arch, or arches, be erected at the city's expense, for the purpose indicated, and I hope that favorable action may be taken.

I attach hereunto a letter received by me from Mr. C. B. Yandell, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, endorsing the recommendation made herein.

Respectfully submitted

Mayor.